

IN THE CLAIMS

In compliance with the practice guidelines for making amendments, Applicants present all pending claims with status indicators.

Claims 87-93 are pending. Claim 93 was withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Please cancel claim 88 and amend claims 87, 90 and 91 as shown below.

1 to 86. CANCELLED

87. (Currently amended) A method for producing an antibody or fragment thereof directed against a B7 antigen having SEQ ID NO. 8 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO. 8 which binds CD28, which antibody reacts with B7 on B7 positive B cells to inhibit B cell interaction with CD28, comprising:

(a) using immunizing an animal with the B7 antigen or a the fragment thereof which binds CD28 so as to produce antibodies that react with B7 antigen or a fragment thereof which binds CD28; and

(b) screening the antibodies so prepared for an antibody that reacts with the B7 antigen or fragment thereof on B7 positive B cells and inhibits B cell interaction with CD28;

thereby producing the antibody directed against the B7 antigen having SEQ ID NO. 8 or the fragment of SEQ ID NO. 8 which binds CD28, which antibody reacts with B7 on B7 positive B cells to inhibit B cell interaction with CD28.

88. (Cancelled)

89. (Previously added) The method of claim 87, wherein the B7 antigen or fragment is B7Ig.
90. (Currently amended) A method for producing an antibody or fragment thereof directed against a B7 antigen having SEQ ID NO. 8 or a fragment of SEQ ID NO. 8 which binds CD28, which antibody reacts with B7 on B7 positive B cells to inhibit B cell interaction with CD28, comprising:
- (a) ~~using a~~ immunizing an animal with the B7 fusion protein having SEQ ID NO. 8 or ~~a~~ the fragment of SEQ ID NO. 8 which binds CD28 so as to produce antibodies that react with the B7 antigen or a fragment thereof which binds CD28; and
 - (b) screening the antibodies so prepared for an antibody that reacts with the B7 antigen ~~or a fragment thereof~~ on B7 positive B cells and inhibits B cell interaction with CD28;
- thereby producing the antibody directed against the B7 antigen having SEQ ID NO. 8 or the fragment of SEQ ID NO. 8 which binds CD28, which antibody reacts with B7 on B7 positive B cells to inhibit B cell interaction with CD28.
91. (Currently amended) The method of claim 90, wherein the B7 fusion protein is B7Ig comprising SEQ ID NO. 8 or a fragment thereof which binds CD28.
92. (Previously added) The method of claim 91, wherein the B7Ig is encoded by DNA as deposited with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) as accession No. 68627.
93. (Withdrawn) An antibody produced by the method of claim 87 or 90.